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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Hansen et al. Examiner: A. Merlino  
Serial No.: 09/403,958 Group Art Unit: 2877  
Filed: November 1, 1999 Docket No.: 12845.2USWO  
Title: A METHOD AND A SYSTEM FOR DETERMINATION OF PARTICLES  
IN A LIQUID SAMPLE

**CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:** The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on March 17, 2003.  
By Victoria Hanson  
Name: Victoria Hanson

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AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to an Office Action mailed December 17, 2002, please amend this application as indicated herein.

In the Claims

Please amend claims 142, 151, and 152 as follows.

142. (Once Amended) A system for the assessment of at least one parameter of a species of biological particles in a liquid analyte material, comprising:  
a sample compartment for containing a volume of a liquid sample representing the analyte material and comprising a plurality of particles, or a plurality of particles isolated from a volume of liquid sample representing the analyte material, from which sample compartment electromagnetic signals from the sample in the compartment can pass to the exterior, the size of the volume being 0.04  $\mu$ l or more;  
an array of active detection elements arranged such that electromagnetic signals from said volume having passed from the compartment is detected on the detection elements forming an image of the plurality of particles; and  
a processor for processing the intensities detected by the detection elements.